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SEP 26 2006

Remarks:

Reconsideration of the application, as amended herein, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 - 22 are presently pending in the application.

Claims 1 and 19 have been amended.

On page 2 of the above-identified Office Action, claims 1 - 5, 7 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 6,313,400 to Mosquera et al ("MOSQUERA").

On page 4 of the Office Action, claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over MOSQUERA in view of U. S. Patent No. 3,885,084 to Kaiserwerth et al ("KAISERWERTH"). Additionally, on page 4 of the Office Action, claims 8 - 18 and 20 - 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over MOSQUERA in view of U. S. Patent No. 6,194,653 to McMiller et al ("MCMILLER").

Applicants respectfully traverse the above rejections, as applied to the amended claims.

More particularly, claim 1 recites, among other limitations:



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As can be seen from Fig. 3 of the instant application, **each of the end surfaces** of the two housing parts 1 and 2 includes **two bends 11** (i.e., "**each of said end surfaces** of said first and second housing parts having **at least two sections formed by a first and a second bend**", as required by Applicants' claims), resulting in "both of said sections and the housing part **forming an u-shaped profile**", as further required by Applicants' claims. This is additionally disclosed in the specification of the instant application, for example, on page 12 of the instant application, lines 17 - 20, which states:

FIG. 3 represents another embodiment of the invention, **whereby the labyrinth has been expanded by additional bends 11**. [emphasis added by Applicants]

In Applicants' claimed invention, the EMI shielding is provided by the end surfaces of the housing parts, having at least two sections formed by the first and second bends. The first section is formed by the first bend 11, which is arranged on the border of the housing part. A transition from the first section to the second section is formed by the second bend 11. The two sections formed by the two bends 11, along with the housing part form an u-shaped profile. As such, among other limitations, Applicants' claims require **two housing portions detachably connected to one another, each housing portion including **two sections formed by first and second bends****, resulting, in combination with the housing

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portion, in a **u-shaped profile**. Applicants' particularly claimed complementary fitting of the two housing portions results in, among other things, the two housing parts **"each having end surfaces fitting with one another to spread electrical contact on a largest possible surface area therebetween"**, as is further required by Applicants' claims 1 and 19.

Advantageously, Applicants' claimed particularly claimed u-shaped housing parts are detachable in a very simple way. Additionally, it is a further advantage of the u-shaped profile that the EMI shielding is very effective because an electromagnetic wave is going to fizzle out in the "labyrinth" that is built by the u-shaped profile. Further, the u-shaped profile is advantageous because it is not particularly subject to design tolerances caused by the production process, thus, the EMI shielding of such a design is additionally unaffected.

The **MOSQUERA** reference, cited against Applicants' independent claims in the Office Action, fails to teach or suggest, among other limitations of Applicants' claims, Applicants' particularly claimed first and second housing portions, each having two bends resulting in a u-shaped profile.

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More particularly, it was stated on page 2 of the Office  
Action:

Re claim 1, Mosquera et al disclose a housing comprising: at least first and second housing parts (32, 34) detachably connected to one another at a transition (Fig 7), said first and second housing parts each having end surfaces (56, 72) fitting with one another to spread electrical contact on a largest possible surface area therebetween (Figs 7, 8), **each of said end surfaces of said first and second housing parts having at least a first and second corresponding bent (90, 94, 104, 106) in order to form an interlocked U-shaped profile (Fig 6) and providing additional protection against electrostatic and electromagnetic disturbances at the transition of the housing parts (Fig 7) (col. 1, lines 30-36).** [emphasis added by Applicants]

Applicants respectfully disagree that **MOSQUERA** teaches or suggests Applicants' presently claimed invention. More particularly, Applicants' respectfully disagree with the statement that **MOSQUERA** discloses **first and second housing parts having at least a first and second corresponding bent (90, 94, 104, 106) in order to form an interlocked U-shaped profile**, as alleged in the Office Action. Rather, in **MOSQUERA**, the alleged first and the second "bends" 90, 94, 104, 106, are not bends at all, but dimples which **MOSQUERA** discloses are **part of the housing and arranged to securely prevent separation of the assembled housing parts**. The **dimples** 90, 94, 104, 106 of **MOSQUERA** are not for protection against EMI, as required by Applicants' claimed invention. Col. 1 of **MOSQUERA**, lines 28 - 45, states:

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In accordance with one embodiment of the present invention, a **data card housing** is provided which is easily assembled around a circuit board and which results in a rigid housing that provides good EMI (Electromagnetic Interference) shielding. The housing includes top and bottom housing halves, with each housing half including a sheet metal shield having a horizontal main wall and primarily vertical side walls. The **side walls of the shields are formed with dimples** that each has a projection at one surface and a recess at the other surface. The housing halves are assembled so that the side walls overlap, with dimples of the overlapped side walls locking to each other. Each dimple is formed by half-punching out an area of a shield side wall, with opposite sides of the dimple merging with the rest of the side wall but with at least the bottom of the dimple cut free of an adjacent area of the shield side wall. **As a result, the bottom forms a downwardly-facing surface for locking to the dimple of the other shield.** [emphasis added by Applicants]

As such, it is the housing of **MOSQUERA** that is taught to provide the EMI shield, and not the dimples. The housing of **MOSQUERA** is disclosed as including side walls of the shield, which side walls are dimpled, however **MOSQUERA** does not teach or suggest that the dimples are created to provide EMI protection. Rather, as stated above, **MOSQUERA** merely discloses that the dimples are provided for locking the housing together.

Further, contrary to Applicants' currently claimed invention, the **dimples 90, 94, 104 and 106 of MOSQUERA** are not u-shaped profiles **formed by the two edge surface sections and the housing portion**. Rather, as shown in **MOSQUERA**, the dimples

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90, 94, 104 and 106 are fully formed in the sidewalls 56, 58, 70 and 72, and thus any alleged u-shaped profile of the dimples 90, 94, 104 and 106 are not formed from the end sections **and the housing portion**, as required by Applicants' claims.

As such, **MOSQUERA** does not teach or suggest **first and second housing parts each having end surfaces fitting with one another to spread electrical contact on a largest possible surface area therebetween**, and having **an u-shaped profile** made up of the two end surface sections (formed by the two bends) **and the housing portion**, as required by Applicants' claims. As such, Applicants' claims are believed to be patentable over the **MOSQUERA** reference.

It should further be noted that, the dimples of **MOSQUERA**, contrary to Applicants' claimed invention, require careful attention to the tolerances of the production process. Absent such deliberate and careful tolerances, the dimples disclosed by **MOSQUERA** would not engage one another resulting in the housing portions having an air gap therebetween (i.e., a reduced electrical contact therebetween), resulting in reduced EMI shielding.

The **KAISERWERTH** and **MCMILLER** references, cited in combination

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with **MOSQUERA** against certain of Applicants' claims, do not cure the above-discussed deficiencies of the **MOSQUERA** reference.

It is accordingly believed that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, teach or suggest the features of claims 1 and 19. Claims 1 and 19 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art. The dependent claims are believed to be patentable as well because they all are ultimately dependent on claims 1 or 19.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1 - 22 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate receiving a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

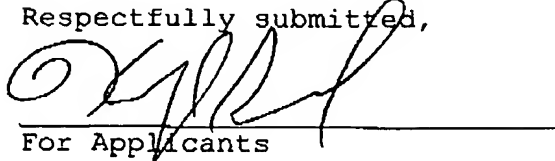
If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

Please charge any fees that might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner Greenberg Stemmer LLP, No. 12-1099.



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Respectfully submitted,

  
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